
SENATE BILL 5308

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Cleveland and Rivers

Read first time 01/12/23. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to athletic trainers; and amending RCW 18.250.010
2 and 18.250.110.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.250.010 and 2020 c 80 s 25 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1) "Athlete" means a person who participates in exercise,
9 recreation, activities, sport, or games requiring physical strength,
10 range-of-motion, flexibility, body awareness and control, speed,
11 stamina, or agility, and the exercise, recreation, activities,
12 sports, or games are of a type conducted for the benefits of health
13 and wellness or in association with an educational institution or
14 professional, amateur, or recreational sports club or organization.

15 (2) "Athletic injury" means an injury or condition sustained by
16 an athlete that affects the person's participation or performance in
17 exercise, recreation, activities, sport, or games and the injury or
18 condition is within the professional preparation and education of an
19 athletic trainer.

20 (3) "Athletic trainer" means a (~~person~~) health care provider
21 who is licensed under this chapter. An athletic trainer can practice

1 athletic training through the consultation, referral, or guidelines
2 of a licensed health care provider as defined in subsection (7) of
3 this section working within their scope of practice.

4 (4) (a) "Athletic training" means the application of the following
5 principles and methods as provided by a licensed athletic trainer:

6 (i) Risk management and prevention of athletic injuries through
7 preactivity screening and evaluation, educational programs, physical
8 conditioning and reconditioning programs, application of commercial
9 products, use of protective equipment, promotion of healthy
10 behaviors, and reduction of environmental risks;

11 (ii) Recognition, evaluation, and assessment of athletic injuries
12 by obtaining a history of the athletic injury, inspection and
13 palpation of the injured part and associated structures, and
14 performance of specific testing techniques related to stability and
15 function to determine the extent of an injury;

16 (iii) Immediate care of athletic injuries, including emergency
17 medical situations through the application of first-aid and emergency
18 procedures and techniques for nonlife-threatening or life-threatening
19 athletic injuries;

20 (iv) Treatment, rehabilitation, and reconditioning of athletic
21 injuries through the application of physical agents and modalities,
22 therapeutic activities and exercise, standard reassessment techniques
23 and procedures, commercial products, and educational programs, in
24 accordance with guidelines established with a licensed health care
25 provider as provided in RCW 18.250.070;

26 (v) Treatment, rehabilitation, and reconditioning of work-related
27 injuries through the application of physical agents and modalities,
28 therapeutic activities and exercise, standard reassessment techniques
29 and procedures, commercial products, and educational programs, under
30 the direct supervision of and in accordance with a plan of care for
31 an individual worker established by a provider authorized to provide
32 physical medicine and rehabilitation services for injured workers;
33 and

34 (vi) Referral of an athlete to an appropriately licensed health
35 care provider if the athletic injury requires further definitive care
36 or the injury or condition is outside an athletic trainer's scope of
37 practice, in accordance with RCW 18.250.070.

38 (b) "Athletic training" does not include:

39 (i) The use of spinal adjustment or manipulative mobilization of
40 the spine and its immediate articulations;

1 (ii) Orthotic or prosthetic services with the exception of
2 evaluation, measurement, fitting, and adjustment of temporary,
3 prefabricated or direct-formed orthosis as defined in chapter 18.200
4 RCW;

5 (iii) The practice of occupational therapy as defined in chapter
6 18.59 RCW;

7 (iv) The practice of acupuncture and Eastern medicine as defined
8 in chapter 18.06 RCW;

9 (v) Any medical diagnosis; and

10 (vi) Prescribing legend drugs or controlled substances, or
11 surgery.

12 (5) "Committee" means the athletic training advisory committee.

13 (6) "Department" means the department of health.

14 (7) "Licensed health care provider" means a physician, physician
15 assistant, osteopathic physician, advanced registered nurse
16 practitioner, naturopath, physical therapist, chiropractor, dentist,
17 massage therapist, acupuncturist, occupational therapist, or
18 podiatric physician and surgeon.

19 (8) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's
20 designee.

21 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.250.110 and 2019 c 358 s 3 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1) An athletic trainer licensed under this chapter may purchase,
24 store, and administer (~~over-the-counter topical~~) medications (~~such~~
25 ~~as hydrocortisone, fluocinonide, topical anesthetics, silver~~
26 ~~sulfadiazine, lidocaine, magnesium sulfate, zinc oxide, and other~~
27 ~~similar medications~~) in accordance with the athletic trainer's
28 pharmacological education and training, as prescribed by an
29 authorized health care practitioner for the practice of athletic
30 training.

31 (a) An athletic trainer may not administer any medications to a
32 student in a public school as defined in RCW 28A.150.010 or private
33 schools governed by chapter 28A.195 RCW.

34 (b) An athletic trainer may administer medications consistent
35 with this section to a minor in a setting other than a school, if the
36 minor's parent or guardian provides written consent.

37 (2) An athletic trainer licensed under this chapter who has
38 completed an anaphylaxis training program in accordance with RCW
39 70.54.440 may administer an epinephrine autoinjector to any

1 individual who the athletic trainer believes in good faith is
2 experiencing anaphylaxis as authorized by RCW 70.54.440.

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